

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance. Responsive to the previous restriction requirement, applicants elected Group I drawn to a light sensor and consisting of claims 1, 2, 3, 29, and 30. Accordingly, the remaining claims have been withdrawn.

Claims 40-41 are cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 2 has been amended to recite the receiving part being a light sensor made of a conductive polymer.

Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Withdrawn claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 3. Rejoinder of claim 8 is solicited. Rejoinder of the claims depending from claim 8 is solicited.

Claims 10-11 have been amended to depend from claim 3. Rejoinder of these claims and their dependent claims is solicited.

Claims 28-29 has been amended to recite the receiving part coated with a transparent electrode (2006) extending along a full length of the linear body, the transparent electrode defining a final exterior surface of the length of the linear body exposed to the atmosphere. This is supported by the original specification and illustrated at least at Figure 21(d). Rejoinder of claim 28 is solicited.

Claim 39 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to recite the transparent electrode defining a final exterior

surface of the full length of the linear body exposed to the atmosphere. Rejoinder of claim 39 is solicited.

The amended claims continue to read on the elected invention, i.e., to a light sensor.

As to the previous Section 112 rejection of claim 9, that claim was amended to remedy the stated basis of rejection.

Claims 1 and 27 were rejected under Section 103 as obvious over DOBLER 4,587,840 in view of AINDOW 6,094,988.

Claims 2, 3, 29, and 30 were rejected in further view of OSTERGARD 2003/0121976 and COHEN 6,560,967.

Why Claim 1 is allowable

DOBLER is offered as teaching an end face sensor device. The claim 1 recitation of "a linear body (2001)" is read onto elements 14b and 12.

Element 12 is read as the recited center electrode and element 14b is used as the recited insulating film. The Official Action acknowledges that DOBLER does not disclose the recitation of "the linear body having a conductive polymer center electrode (2007)" or the recitation of "an outer circumference of the center electrode coated with an insulating film made of polymer (2008)".

AINDOW is offered for teaching sensors having a receiving part 8 coupled to a conductive polymer conductor 2, the conductor 2 surrounded by a polymer insulator 4.

The Official Action urges that it would be obvious, in view of the AINDOW teaching, to modify DOBLER to use a conductive polymer conductor for element 12 and to use a polymer insulator for element 14b.

Applicants respectfully disagree.

DOBLER discloses a sensor that is attached to the inner wall of a diesel engine. DOBLER teaches that element 14b is a glass melt which is necessary to adhere the sensor to the base body 14a which is the attachment part with the engine house. Therefore, one of skill would not modify DOBLER as suggested by the Official Action.

Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 is therefore solicited.

Why Claim 2 is allowable

The Official Action acknowledges that DOBLER and AINDOW fail to teach an end face sensor as recited, the receiving part being a light sensor.

OSTERGARD and COHEN are offered for teachings of a light sensor. The Official Action appears to misread COHEN. Column 6, lines 18-25 discloses (emphasis added): Referring again to FIG. 1, the gas turbine engine 22 further includes a sensor 122 that provides a signal indicative of the presence of combustion instability. In the best mode embodiment, the sensor 122 is a pressure sensor that senses the pressure in the combustor, although any other suitable type of sensor may be

used, including but not limited to a thermal sensor, a light sensor, or a vibration sensor. The pressure sensor may comprise a probe 123, located within the combustor 48, and a remote transducer 124 electrically connected to the engine control 34 by a signal line 126. The pressure sensor provides a signal having a magnitude, shown simplified over a time duration in a graph 128, indicative of the oscillations in the magnitude of the pressure in the combustor.

At best, COHEN teaches that combustion instability may be monitored by different types of sensors. COHEN does not teach that a light sensor can monitor pressure.

One of skill would not modify DOBLER to provide a light sensor in lieu of a pressure sensor as a light sensor does not monitor pressure, and monitoring pressure is the purpose of the DOBLER sensor.

Thus, claim 2 is non-obvious. Similarly, claims 3, 29 and 30 are non-obvious.

The amended claims are non-obvious for the reasons discussed above as well as reciting features non-obvious over the applied art, e.g., that a light sensor comprises an active portion made of a conductive polymer, and that the receiving part coated with a transparent electrode (2006) extending along a full length of the linear body, the transparent electrode defining a final exterior surface of the length of the linear body exposed to the atmosphere.

Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims is solicited.

The present amendment is fully responsive and addresses each point raised by the Official Action. Entry of the amendment is solicited. As claim 1 is allowable, rejoinder and allowance of all the claims are also solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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